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CLAIMS

1. A lampshade comprising a plurality of panels joined to one another edge to edge, wherein each panel is
5 formed of a laminate comprising a relatively stiff substrate material and an overlying relatively flexible decorative layer and wherein, at each join between adjacent panels, the flexible layer of at least one of the panels extends beyond the edge of the substrate to form a loose flap that serves
10 to conceal the edge of the substrate material.

2. A lampshade as claimed in claim 1, wherein the substrate is formed of a material selected from card, parchment and a plastics material.

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3. A lampshade as claimed in claim 2, wherein the substrate is formed of polyethylene terephthalate (PET).

4. A lampshade as claimed in any preceding claim,
20 wherein the decorative material is made of a woven fabric.

5. A lampshade as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein each loose flap serves exclusively for the purpose of covering the edge of the substrate material at the join.

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6. A lampshade as claimed in claim 5, wherein the panels are joined to one another by an adhesive tape applied to the inner sides of the panels.

7. A lampshade as claimed in claim 5, wherein the side edges of panels are shaped to interlock mechanically with one another.

8. A lampshade as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4,
35 wherein the loose flaps serve as part of means securing adjacent panels to one another.

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9. A lampshade as claimed in claim 8, wherein adjacent panel edges are butt jointed to one another.

10. A lampshade as claimed in claim 9, wherein each
5 panel has a loose flap that is folded over the edge of the substrate of the same panel and the two loose flaps of the adjacent panels are secured to one another.

11. A lampshade as claimed in claim 8, wherein the
10 edge of one panel at a join overlaps the edge of the adjacent panel.

12. A lampshade as claimed in claim 11, wherein only
the upper of the two panels is provided with a loose flap,
15 the flap being folded twice to cover the edges of the substrates of both panels, and being adhered to the lower panel.

13. A lampshade as claimed in any preceding claim,
20 wherein loose flaps of the decorative material are provided along the upper and lower edges of the panels.

14. A lampshade as claimed in claim 13, wherein the
loose flaps along the upper and lower edges of the panels
25 are wrapped about wire loops serving to strengthen the lampshade or as part of a frame for mounting the lampshade on a lamp or light socket.

15. A lampshade as claimed in any one of the preceding
30 claims, wherein a conformal coating is applied to the interior of the lampshade.

16. A lampshade as claimed in claim 15, wherein the
coating is a polyurethane casting resin.

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